

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 170679  
ORIGIN SS-25

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DRAFTED BY EUR/RPM:JAFROEBE,JR.:LA  
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USMISSION USNATO IMMEDIATE  
USDEL MC BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 170679

EXDIS , MILITARY ADDEE HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, MPOL

SUBJECT: SACLANT CHANGE OF COMMAND

1. FOR USNATO: AMBASSADOR SHOULD DELIVER TO SYG LUNS  
THE TEXT OF THE FOLLOWING LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT  
REQUESTING THE RELEASE OF ADMIRAL KIDD FROM HIS  
ASSIGNMENT AS SACLANT. SIGNED ORIGINAL IS BEING POUCHED.

BEGIN TEXT: DEAR MR. SECRETARY GENERAL: I WRITE TO YOU  
IN YOUR CAPACITY AS CHAIRMAN OF THE DEFENSE PLANNING  
COMMITTEE OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL. I REQUEST THAT  
THE COMMITTEE TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO SECURE THE RE-  
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LEASE OF ADMIRAL ISAAC C. KIDD, JR., UNITED STATES  
NAVY, FROM HIS ASSIGNMENT AS SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER,  
ATLANTIC. ADMIRAL KIDD HAS REQUESTED RETIREMENT TO BE  
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 1978.

I AM CERTAIN THAT THE FULL TRUST AND CONFIDENCE EXTENDED  
BY ALL NATIONS TO THE SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER,

ATLANTIC, DURING ADMIRAL KIDD'S TENURE WILL CONTINUE WITH THE ASSUMPTION OF THESE RESPONSIBILITIES BY ANOTHER COMMANDER.

IF THE COMMITTEE APPROVES THE RELEASE OF ADMIRAL KIDD, THE UNITED STATES IS PREPARED TO RECOMMEND TO THE COMMITTEE A WELL QUALIFIED SUCCESSOR. SINCERELY, JIMMY CARTER. END TEXT.

2. FOR USDELMC: YOU SHOULD, AT THE SAME TIME THAT AMB BENNETT DELIVERS THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER, NOTIFY THE MILITARY COMMITTEE OF THE PRESIDENT'S REQUEST FOR ADMIRAL KIDD'S RELEASE. UPON A REQUEST FROM THE DPC, WE WILL PROVIDE A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT NOMINATING A SUCCESSOR TO ADMIRAL KIDD AS SACLANT.

3. THIS IS A JOINT STATE-DEFENSE MESSAGE. THIS MATTER MUST REPEAT MUST BE HELD CLOSELY TO AVOID PREMATURE LEAKS. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TEXT, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 06 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE170679  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** JAFROEBE,JR.:LA  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Subject:** SACLANT CHANGE OF COMMAND  
**TAGS:** MPOL, APER, US, NATO, (CARTER, JIMMY), (KIDD, ISAAC C JR)  
**To:** USNATO BRUSSELS  
**Type:** TE  
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